



**ST THEOSEVIA CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY  
OPEN STUDY DAYS IN HILARY TERM 2010**

*at St Theosevia House, 2 Canterbury Road, Oxford OX2 6LU*  
*An Eumenical Centre for Christian Spirituality in Oxford*  
[www.theosevia.org](http://www.theosevia.org)

Saturday 23 January, 10.30am – 4pm

**The Practice of Spiritual Direction in East and West**

Revd Dr Liz Carmichael, Revd Georgie Simpson, Alexis Torrance

Saturday 27 February, 10.30am – 4pm

**The Song of Songs in the Early Fathers, in Music, and in a  
Recent Study**

Dr Jane Baun, Sr Edmée Kingsmill SLG, Dr Julia Konstantinovsky

**Poetry Evening on the theme “Heaven and Hell”**

Tuesday 2 March at 8pm

Bring and share poetry. A glass of wine will be provided.  
with **Metropolitan Kallistos**

**St Theosevia House, 2 Canterbury Road**, left off Banbury Rd just after North Parade.  
Fee for study days £5 (on door) but **FREE for students with card**. No booking needed,  
just come, for all or part of the day. Lunch break 1-2 pm (please provide your own lunch).

**Director: Revd Dr Liz Carmichael, St John’s College.**  
**Assistant Director of Studies: Revd Steffen Weishaupt, 01865 310341,**  
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**The St Theosevia Centre for Christian Spirituality**  
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*From the Director*

Revd Dr Liz Carmichael

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December 2009

Dear Friends of St Theosevia,

Welcome to the Hilary Term 2010 programme. Thank you for your support of the very informative and interesting programme last term.

In Hilary Term we have two study days and one poetry evening.

The first study day affords an opportunity to explore the art and science of spiritual direction in three very varied contexts: We begin in the desert of Palestine with Barsanuphius and John, then move to the C20th Church of England and the work of Reginald Somerset Ward, whom Evelyn Underhill found to be 'the most remarkable soul-specialist I've ever met since the Baron (von Hügel)'. Finally, we focus on Ignatius of Loyola whose C16th 'spiritual exercises' have been revisited and brought alive in a fresh way by his fellow Jesuits and widely shared with others in the past few decades.

The Song of Songs, allegorically interpreted as referring to love between God and those who seek Him in prayer, has been central to the Christian mystical tradition. Sr Edmée SLG (Fairacres) will share her recent research, *The Song of Songs and the Eros of God: A Study in Biblical Intertextuality* (OUP 2009). The day includes musical settings which the words of the Song have inspired. down the ages in both Judaism and Christianity.

Finally, you are invited to a bring-and-share poetry evening led by Metropolitan Kallistos. Come and bring poetry (and perhaps other offerings) on the theme of 'Heaven and Hell'.

We look forward to seeing you, and encourage you to make this programme widely known among your friends and to bring them along.

If you have ideas for future topics or speakers, rr would like to receive extra newsletters or posters, please let us know.

LIZ CARMICHAEL

- **Newsletter subscriptions** for 2009-10: thanks to those who have sent theirs. Please send at least £3 (cheques to 'St Theosevia Trust') to **Newsletter, St Theosevia House, 2 Canterbury Rd, OX2 6LU.**
- If you would like to receive newsletters and reminders by email you can subscribe by sending a blank email to: [theosevia-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:theosevia-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)
- Tea and coffee are on offer at Study Days before the meetings and at lunch-time. Bring a packed lunch, or you can purchase food nearby in North Parade.
- If you are willing to help serve coffee for a study day you will have a free place. Please contact the Assistant Director if you'd like to help in this way

## **DETAILS OF EVENTS IN HILARY TERM**

### **SATURDAY STUDY DAYS**

Saturday, 23 January, 10.30am – 4pm

#### **The Practice of Spiritual Direction in East and West**

with Revd Dr Liz Carmichael, Revd Georgie Simpson and Alexis Torrance

Alexis Torrance will present his research on two Desert Fathers from Palestine “I offer myself as a sacrifice for your souls”: spiritual direction according to Barsanuphius and John of Gaza’. Dr Liz Carmichael shares her research on the method of spiritual direction practiced in C20th England by Reginald Somerset Ward. Georgie Simpson will speak out of her experience of learning and practising ‘Spiritual Direction from an Ignatian Perspective’

Saturday, 27 February, 10.30am – 4pm

#### **The Song of Songs in the Early Fathers, in Music, and in a Recent Study**

with Dr Jane Baun, Sr Edmée Kingsmill SLG and Dr Julia Konstantinovsky

Sr Edmée SLG speaks on ‘The Song of Songs and the Eros of God: A Study in Biblical Intertextuality’, Dr Julia Konstantinovsky on ‘the Song in early Christian tradition’, and Dr Jane Baun on ‘Quam pulchra es’: live musical settings of the Song of Songs

### **POETRY EVENING**

Tuesday, 2 March, 8pm

#### **Poetry Evening on the Theme “Heaven and Hell”**

with Metropolitan Kallistos

All are invited to bring and share poetry on this theme.

A glass of wine will be provided.

## OTHER EVENTS IN HILARY TERM

held at St Theosevia House, or next door at St Gregory and St Macrina House,  
or at 9 Fyfield Rd.

### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP

The Christian Meditation Group meets on Tuesday evenings (note new day) from 7.25 pm in St Theosevia's for a period of quiet, meditation and fellowship.

**Inquiries:** Brenda Newey, 792838, [brendanewey@talktalk.net](mailto:brendanewey@talktalk.net)

### THE UNICORN GROUP

*An ecumenical discussion group founded by Nicholas Zernov in 1959*

The meetings, open to all, are usually held on Friday lunchtimes at the **House of St Gregory & St Macrina, 1 Canterbury Road**. The talks, followed by discussion, run from 1-2pm. Coffee is served from 12.30pm, packed lunches may be brought. Donations are invited to cover costs.

**Friday, 29 January:** Mr Millius Palayiwa (Registrar of Christ Church Cathedral):  
Alternatives to Military Interventions

**Friday, 12 February:** Margaret Pawley (co-author of *Rome and Canterbury – Through four Centuries*): In Rome for the Vatican Council

**Friday, 26 February:** Ruth and Martin Conway:  
Paraguay – in the Footsteps of the Jesuits

**Friday, 12 March:** Andrew Hope:  
William Tyndale and the English Bible – “A Thing Begun rather than Finished”

**Friday, 7 May and 21 May:** Next meetings (Trinity Term).

**Inquiries:** Revd Canon Martin Coombs, 01865 243865

### MEDIEVAL ARTS GROUP & BYZANTINE STUDIES CLASS

The **Medieval Arts Group** with Dr Nicholas Gendle will continue focusing on **Late Antique and Early Christian Art and Architecture**. Meetings on Tuesdays at 2pm from 12 January, at the House of St Gregory & St Macrina, 1 Canterbury Road.

The **Byzantine Studies Class** with Dr Gendle will continue focusing on **Cities of the Byzantine World - Art and Architecture**, on Wednesdays from 13 January, 10.30am, at 9 Fyfield Rd.

**Inquiries:** Valerie Sansom, 0118 9479471